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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/482,684	01/14/2000	Takenori Idehara	325772014000	7340

7590 02/09/2006  
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EXAMINER
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BRINICH, STEPHEN M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2624

DATE MAILED: 02/09/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 09/482,684	<b>Applicant(s)</b> IDEHARA, TAKENORI	
	<b>Examiner</b> Stephen M. Brinich	<b>Art Unit</b> 2624	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 November 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 and 10-16 is/are pending in the application.  
     4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 and 14-16 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 8 and 10-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
     Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
     Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

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**DETAILED ACTION**

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

1. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.
2. Claims 8 & 10-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Onodera.

Re claims 8 & 10-13, Onodera discloses (Figure 3; column 5, line 10 - column 7, line 2; particularly column 6, lines 17-54), a printing device and method for receiving page description language image data (i.e. first image data, printer language data) and converting (expanding) this input data to image raster data (i.e. second image data, bitmap data). The time required for this conversion (developing the first image data) is compared with the time required to transfer raster data for printing (step S307; column 6, lines 44-46). If the former is shorter than the latter, a new compression means is selected for the page description language data (step 307), which inherently requires the retention and storage of this data until this selection is completed. The raster data is then used to produce a printout (step S315).

***Allowable Subject Matter***

3. Claims 1-7 & 14-16 are allowed.

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4. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Re claims 1, 3, & 14 (and dependent claims 2 & 4-7), the art of record does not teach or suggest the recited comparison of the volumes of first image data and third image data, where the first image data is the originally received data and the third image data is the result of compressing second image data produced by developing the first image data, and then conditionally storing image data based on the comparison result.

Re claims 15-16, the art of record does not teach or suggest the recited conditional (based on whether image data of two previous pages are stored as second rather than first image data) comparison of first image data developing time and a second time required for printing a recording medium

***Response to Arguments***

5. Applicant's arguments, see Response filed 11/22/05, with respect to claims 8, 10, & 13 (and dependent claims 11-12) have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Re claim 8, Applicant argues (11/22/05 Response: page 7, line 12 - page 8, line 2) that the "page description language" of Onodera corresponds to the claimed "printer language data". Applicant notes that the Onodera data is converted from "page description language" format in step S302. Applicant then argues

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(11/22/05 Response: page 8, lines 2-10) that the time required to execute subsequent steps of the Onodera process (e.g. step S305) is not readable upon the claimed "time required for developing the first image data", because the claimed "first image data" is "printer language data", corresponding to the Onodera "page description language" data.

Examiner agrees with the identification of the claimed "printer language data"/"first image data" with the "page description language" of Onodera. However, the fact that certain steps take place after data has been converted from this format to a different format does not mean that those steps are not part of the "time required for developing" this data. The "time required for developing" may be read on those steps, or set thereof, which must occur between the reception of the "first image data" and the generation of output data in a form readable upon the "second image data" (i.e. any of the steps from S301, receiving the initial page description language data, to S315, outputting the final raster image data).

Re claims 10 & 13 (and dependent claims 11-12), Applicant argues (5/13/05 Response: page 8, lines 11-13) that these claims are allowable for the same reasons as claim 8.

Applicant's arguments re claim 8 are addressed above.

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**Conclusion**

6. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

7. Any inquiry concerning the contents of this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stephen M. Brinich at 571-272-7430.

Any inquiry relating to the status of this application or proceeding or any inquiry of a general nature concerning application processing should be directed to the Tech Center 2600 Customer Service center at 571-272-2600 or to the USPTO Contact Center at 800-786-9199 or 703-308-4357.

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The examiner can normally be reached on weekdays 7:00-4:30, alternate Fridays off.

If attempts to contact the examiner and the Customer Service Center are unsuccessful, supervisor David Moore can be contacted at 571-272-7437.

Faxes pertaining to this application should be directed to the Tech Center 2600 official fax number, which is 571-273-8300 (as of July 15, 2005).

Hand-carried correspondence may be delivered to the Customer Service Window, located at the Randolph Building, 401 Dulany Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

Stephen M Brinich  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2624

smb   
January 25, 2006



THOMAS R. MOORE  
SUPERVISOR